Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Officer Involved Shooting

Report Date: 12-31-00	Bureau/Station/Facility: CENTURY STATION	Admin. Invest.? ☐	Hit? ☒

Incident Information

URN: 000-249-2170-055	Date: 12-31-00 Time: 2112 HOURS
City or Station: CENTURY STATION	Nature of Incident: DEPUTY INVOLVED SHOOTING, SUSPECT WOUNDED
Location: [redacted] 58TH DRIVE LOS ANGELES, CA 90001	

Location Type (circle one or more): Backyard, Beach, (Business), Freeway, (Industrial), Park, Parking Lot, Residence, Rural, School, Street, Other: ______

Lighting (circle only one): Darkness, Daylight, Other, (Street Lights)

Weather (circle only one): (Clear), Cloudy, Fog, Rain

Distance: 15 FEET

Incident Type (circle one or more): Accidental, Armed Person, Fleeing Suspect, Foot Pursuit, Gun Take Away, Moving Vehicle, Sniper/Ambush, Startle, Struggle Involved, Traffic Stop, (Unarmed Person), Unintentional, Vehicle Pursuit, Warrant Service, Other: ______

Initiated by (circle only one): Arrest Warrant, Call, (Observation), One Person Unit, Other, Search Warrant, Two Person Unit

Prior Activity (circle only one): Detective, Inmate Transport, Other, (Routine Patrol)

Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy	Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect	Aero Unit?	Canine Unit?
7	NONE	☒	☐

Employee Witnesses

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (circle only one)	ShiftType (circle only one)
[redacted]	PEREZ	JOHN	K.	EM (PM) Day	(Regular) Overtime Off Duty
[redacted]	TORRES	BENJAMIN		(EM) PM Day	(Regular) Overtime Off Duty
				EM PM Day	Regular Overtime Off Duty

Non-Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Street Address	City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
[redacted]	[redacted]	h.	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	A.	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]

Supervisors

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I	(circle one or more)
[redacted]	LIEBERMAN	KEITH		(On Duty) Present during shooting Witness to shooting Involved in shooting
				On Duty Present during shooting Witness to shooting Involved in shooting

Watch Sergeant

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	MEEDER	BRIAN	

Watch Commander

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	NELSON	RUTH	

PSTD Use Only
SH # 2026781

SH-R-438A rev. 3/97

See Reverse

Officer Involved Shooting

URN: 000-249-2170-055

Rollout Information

Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Date Submitted	Date of Recommendation
12-31-00	2330	01-03-01	

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I
[redacted]	CAMPBELL	THOMAS	T.
[redacted]	GREGG	LARRY	
[redacted]	MANNIS	KARYN	

Shooting / Force Information

Method

(AW) Arwen
(BC) Baton:(Control)
(BI) Baton:(Impact)
(BF) Bodily Fluids
(CN) Canine
(CR) Carotid Restraint
(CH) Choke Hold
(CT) Control Holds:(Control Techniques)
(TT) Control Holds:(Team Takedown)
(TD) Control Holds:(Takedown)
(CE) Chemical
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)
(EX) Explosives
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)
(FO) Firearm (Other)
(FB) Flashbang
(FL) Flashlight
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged
(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle
(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object
(OO) Other Weapon: Other
(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)
(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)
(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)
(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)
(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)
(RS) Resistance
(CN) Restraint Device (Capture Net)
(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(HB) Restraint Device:Hobble (Legs Only)
(TP) Restraint Device:Hobble (TARP)
(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(SP) Sap
(SH) Shield
(SG) 37mm Stinger
(SB) Sting Ball
(ST) Stun Bag
(TR) Taser
(UC) Uncooperative

Type of Injury

(AB) Abrasion
(BR) Bruise
(BU) Burn
(CP) Complaint of Pain
(CO) Concussion
(DH) Death
(DI) Dislocation
(DB) Dog Bite
(FR) Fractures
(GS) Gunshot
(HB) Human Bite
(LC) Lacerations
(ND) Nerve Damage
(OD) Organ Damage
(PA) Paralysis
(PW) Puncture Wound
(SD) Soft Tissue Damage
(ST) Sprain/Twists
(UN) Unconscious
(RM) Refused Med Treatment
(NN) NONE

Body Part Injured

(AD) Abdomen
(AK) Ankle
(AR) Arm
(BK) Back
(BT) Buttocks
(CH) Chest
(EL) Elbow
(FA) Face
(FE) Feet
(FI) Fingers
(GE) Genitals
(GR) Groin
(HD) Hand
(HE) Head
(HI) Hip
(IN) Internal
(KN) Knees
(LE) Leg
(NK) Neck
(SH) Shoulder
(WR) Wrist

Brand

(AK) AK-47
(BN) Benelli
(BR) Beretta
(BW) Browning
(CH) Charter Arms
(CO) Colt
(DA) Davis Industries
(GL) Glock
(HA) Harrington & Richardson
(HI) Hi Standard
(HK) H & K
(IT) Ithica
(IV) Iver Johnson
(JE) Jennings
(LO) Lorcin
(LU) Luger
(MA) Marlin
(MO) Mossberg
(NC) NCI aka SKS
(NA) North American
(NO) Norinco
(RA) Raven
(RM) Remington
(RG) RG
(RI) RGI
(RO) Rossi
(SW) Smith & Wesson
(SR) Sturm Ruger
(ST) Sterling
(TA) Taurus
(WE) Weatherby
(WN) Winchester
(US) US Government
(YY) Handmade (Inmate)
(XX) Homemade (Non-Inmate)
(ZZ) Other Brand

Caliber

(9) 9 mm
(10) 10 mm
(12) 12 guage
(20) 20 guage
(21) .22-250
(22) .22 caliber
(23) .223 caliber
(24) .243 caliber
(25) .25 caliber
(30) .308 caliber
(35) .357 caliber
(36) 30-60 caliber
(38) .38 caliber
(40) .40 caliber
(41) .410 guage
(44) .44 caliber
(45) .45 caliber
(50) 50 mm
(SL) Slug
(WW) Other caliber

FORCE APPLIED *(one code per block)*

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
E-1	S-1	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	GS	SH
E-1	S-1	FH	BR	9	y	y	GS	AR
E-1	S-1	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	GS	BT
E-1	S-1	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	GS	LE
E-1	S-1	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	BR	AR
E-1	S-1	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	GS	LE
E-1	S-1	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	FR	SH

See Front Side



Officer Involved Shooting
Involved Employee Information



URN: 000-249-2170-055

Involved Employee

E 1

Employee #: [redacted] | Last Name: GARCIA | First Name: NOE | M.I.:

Sex: M | Race: H | Rank: Deputy Generalist | Unit Assignment: CENTURY STATION | Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 216 F1

ShiftTime (*circle only one*): (EM) PM Day | ShiftType (*circle only one*): (Regular) Overtime Off Duty | Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐ | Substance Used:

Hospital Admission? ☐ | Hospital Name: | Coroner Case? ☐ | Coroner Case #: | Interviewed? ☐

Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: 7 | Duty Time (hrs): [redacted] | Clothing (*circle only one*): Plain Clothes no Vest, Raid Jacket w/ Vest, Plain Clothes w/ Vest, Uniform no Vest, Raid Jacket no Vest, (Uniform w/ Vest) | Other Factors:

Age: 28 | Height: 5' 10" | Weight: 165

Range Qualification Date: [redacted] | PPC Qualification Date: [redacted] | Laser Training Date:

Certified with Weapon Used? [redacted] | Patrol Certification? [redacted] | Certification Unit: [redacted] | Prior Shootings? [redacted] | Number of Prior Shootings: [redacted]

Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted] M.I. [redacted]

Field Training Officer Emp # | Last Name | First Name | M.I.

E__

Employee # | Last Name | First Name | M.I.

Sex: | Race: | Rank | Unit Assignment: | Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):

ShiftTime (*circle only one*): EM PM Day | ShiftType (*circle only one*): Regular Overtime Off Duty | Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐ | Substance Used:

Hospital Admission? ☐ | Hospital Name: | Coroner Case? ☐ | Coroner Case # | Interviewed? ☐

Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: | Duty Time (hrs): | Clothing (*circle only one*): Plain Clothes no Vest, Raid Jacket w/ Vest, Plain Clothes w/ Vest, Uniform no Vest, Raid Jacket no Vest, Uniform w/ Vest | Other Factors:

Age: | Height: | Weight:

Range Qualification Date: | PPC Qualification Date: | Laser Training Date:

Certified with Weapon Used? ☐ | Patrol Certification? ☐ | Certification Unit: | Prior Shootings? ☐ | Number of Prior Shootings:

Field Training Officer Emp # | Last Name | First Name | M.I.

Field Training Officer Emp # | Last Name | First Name | M.I.

E__

Employee # | Last Name | First Name | M.I.

Sex: | Race: | Rank | Unit Assignment: | Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):

ShiftTime (*circle only one*): EM PM Day | ShiftType (*circle only one*): Regular Overtime Off Duty | Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐ | Substance Used:

Hospital Admission? ☐ | Hospital Name: | Coroner Case? ☐ | Coroner Case # | Interviewed? ☐

Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: | Duty Time (hrs): | Clothing (*circle only one*): Plain Clothes no Vest, Raid Jacket w/ Vest, Plain Clothes w/ Vest, Uniform no Vest, Raid Jacket no Vest, Uniform w/ Vest | Other Factors:

Age: | Height: | Weight:

Range Qualification Date: | PPC Qualification Date: | Laser Training Date:

Certified with Weapon Used? ☐ | Patrol Certification? ☐ | Certification Unit: | Prior Shootings? ☐ | Number of Prior Shootings:

Field Training Officer Emp # | Last Name | First Name | M.I.

Field Training Officer Emp # | Last Name | First Name | M.I.

See Other Side

Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

Suspect Information

S 1

Last Name RUIZ		First Name SERGIO	M.I. A.
AKA Last Name NONE		First Name	M.I.
Sex: M Race: H	Street Address: [redacted]	City [redacted]	State & Zip Code: [redacted]
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #: [redacted]	Driver's License #: [redacted]
Age: 23 D.O.B. 03-25-77	Height: 5' 7" Weight: 190	FBI # [redacted]	CII # [redacted]
Booking # 6539733	Primary Charge: 11379(a) H&S	Secondary Charge: 11378 H&S	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☒	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? [redacted]
Vehicle Make		Model:	Year:

S__

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make		Model:	Year:

S__

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make		Model:	Year:

S__

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make		Model:	Year:

SUPPLEMENTAL NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESSES
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Non-Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]



INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

IAB CASE NUMBER SH 2026781

On Sunday, December 31, 2000, Sergeants Thomas T. Campbell and Larry Gregg, along with Lieutenant Karyn Mannis of the Internal Affairs Bureau responded to [redacted] East 58th Drive in the County Area of Los Angeles regarding a Deputy Involved Shooting - Suspect Wounded. Deputy Noe Garcia, #[redacted] assigned to uniformed patrol at Century Station in Unit 216F Early Mornings, shot and wounded Suspect Sergio Ruiz, MH/24, when Ruiz pointed what Deputy Garcia thought was a handgun at him.

The summary of this incident is based on information obtained from reports, memoranda, and other documents regarding Century Station File #000-24909-2170-055, and interviews of Deputy Garcia and his partner, Deputy John Perez, and other witnesses at the crime scene by Homicide and IAB investigators, as well as recording and mobile digital data provided by the Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC).

INVOLVED PERSONNEL

Noe Garcia, #[redacted]	Deputy Generalist

Department Background:

Deputy Garcia is a 6 ½ year Department veteran who has worked at Century Station since the beginning of December of 2000. He was on training status when this shooting occurred. [redacted] This is his first Deputy Involved Shooting and he has no history of complaints or discipline regarding force related matters.

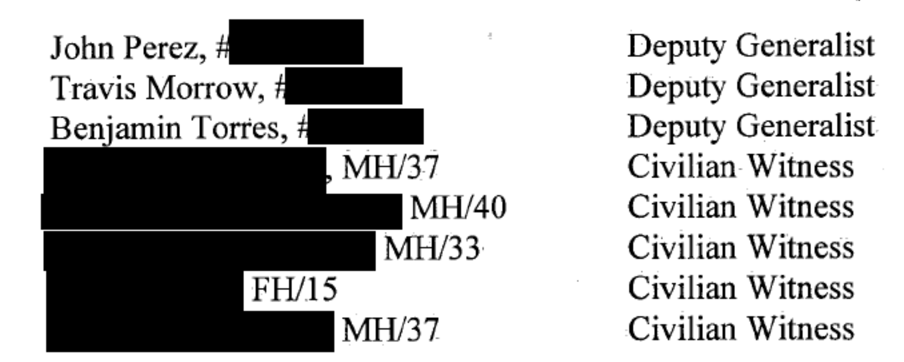
SUSPECT INFORMATION

Sergio Ruiz, MH/24	Booking #6539733

Suspect Ruiz has an extensive criminal record both as a juvenile and an adult. [redacted]. For further details regarding Suspect Ruiz's criminal history refer to **Exhibit C, pages 71 thru 81**. Homicide Investigator, Joe Purcell, filed two felony charges, 11378 H&S, and 11379 H&S, against Suspect Ruiz in Compton Superior Court. He has a trial date set for 06-04-01 under case #VA063403. He is

currently out of jail with bail set at $20,000.

WITNESSES



John Perez, #[redacted]	Deputy Generalist
Travis Morrow, #[redacted]	Deputy Generalist
Benjamin Torres, #[redacted]	Deputy Generalist
[redacted], MH/37	Civilian Witness
[redacted] MH/40	Civilian Witness
[redacted] MH/33	Civilian Witness
[redacted] FH/15	Civilian Witness
[redacted] MH/37	Civilian Witness

WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL

Deputy Garcia fired a total of 9 rounds from his Beretta, Model 92F, Serial #[redacted].

WEAPONS USED BY SUSPECT

None.

INJURIES

Suspect Ruiz was taken to Martin Luther King Hospital where he was examined and treated by Emergency Room Physician Dr. Leke for seven gunshot wounds to his body. Suspect Ruiz sustained one gunshot wound to his left clavicle, one gunshot wound to his left shoulder, one gunshot wound to the right humerous bone, one gunshot wound to his left arm, one gunshot wound to his upper left thigh, one gunshot wound to his upper right thigh, and one gunshot wound to his right buttocks. In addition, Suspect Ruiz sustained a broken right clavicle and a broken right elbow. None of these wounds or injuries were life threatening and Suspect Ruiz has since recovered and is out of jail on bond awaiting trial.

There were no injuries to deputy personnel involved in this incident.

INVOLVED DEPUTY STATEMENTS

Deputy Garcia said on the night this incident occurred, he was working uniformed patrol in Unit 216F1 Early Mornings with his partner and training officer, Deputy John Perez. He said he was the driver and Deputy Perez was the bookman. He said around 2107 hours he heard Deputies Travis Morrow and Benjamin Torres, Unit 216E1, receive a call of an illegal shooting on 58th Drive between Compton Avenue and Hooper Avenue. He said

because he and Deputy Perez were already in that area, they decided to assist. He said he self-assigned the assist on the call to their unit via his radio car's MTD. He said Deputies Morrow and Torres contacted them via their car radio and directed them to take up a position of containment at the corner of 58th Drive and Hooper Avenue. He said after they got to that location, they took a position of containment at the southwest corner and notified Deputies Morrow and Torres that they were in position. They said as they were doing so, they heard three to four gunshots being fired on 58th Drive, just west of their location and relayed that information to Deputies Morrow and Torres.

Deputy Garcia said he then drove his radio car westbound on 58th Drive from Hooper Avenue. He said as they were driving down the street, they saw a male Hispanic (later identified and hereafter referred to as Suspect Sergio Ruiz) walking northbound across the street from the south side of 58th Drive. He said the headlights of his vehicle illuminated Suspect Ruiz as he walked across the street. He said Ruiz turned and looked in their direction with a startled look on his face. He said Suspect Ruiz crouched down and moved his left hand toward his waistband. He said Ruiz then turned completely around and ran back to the sliding chain link gate in front of the business ("VH Polishing") located at [redacted] 58th Drive and attempted to open it. He said due to Suspect Ruiz's actions, he (Garcia) believed Ruiz was armed and probably responsible for firing the gun shots he had just heard.

Deputy Garcia said as he continued to watch Suspect Ruiz try to open the sliding gate, he noticed that Ruiz still held his left hand near his waistband as if concealing a handgun. He said he thought that Ruiz might turn and shoot at him before he could stop and exit his patrol car. He said as he drove up parallel to Suspect Ruiz and stopped, Ruiz was able to open the sliding gate and run into the open yard in front of the warehouse. He said once Suspect Ruiz ran into the open yard, he turned and ran south toward the front door of the office building. He said he parked the radio car in front of the open gate, got out with his Beretta in hand, and ran after Suspect Ruiz. He said as he did so, he yelled for Suspect Ruiz to stop and put his hands up. He said at that point Suspect Ruiz still had his back toward him and he could see his shoulders moving, which indicated to him that Ruiz that was still moving his hands near his waistband. He said he continued to yell at Suspect Ruiz to stop and raise his hands in the air, but Ruiz refused to comply.

Deputy Garcia said at the same time, he noticed his patrol car was no longer where he had left it. He said when he turned back to look at Suspect Ruiz, he noticed a trash dumpster to his immediate left. He said he ducked behind it to gain some cover in case Suspect Ruiz turned and tried to shoot him. He said Suspect Ruiz was now at the front door of the office building and was trying to get in. He said he continued to yell at Suspect Ruiz to stop and give up, but Ruiz ignored him and continued to try to open the front door of the office. He said Suspect Ruiz suddenly spun to his left, faced him, and took a combat shooting stance position with his arms pointed in his direction. He said he saw something in Ruiz's hands,

which he was holding together and pointing at him. He said he thought Ruiz was holding a handgun and was going to shoot him. He said due to that, he fired several rounds at Suspect Ruiz from his Beretta, and Ruiz went down to the ground on his stomach. He said Ruiz's hands were underneath his body near his chest area and he could not see them. He said Suspect Ruiz then rolled onto his left side while still facing him. He said Suspect Ruiz's hands were still in the same position as before (pointing at him). He said he thought Ruiz was going to shoot him, so he fired an additional 2 to 3 rounds at him from his position of cover behind the trash dumpster. He said he stayed behind the dumpster until his assisting units arrived. He said Suspect Ruiz never said a word to him during the entire incident.

Deputy Garcia said a search of the area was conducted for a gun, but none was found. He said he later learned that the object that Suspect Ruiz had in his hands was a 6 inch long package wrapped in silver duct-tape **(Exhibit B-8)** that contained a large amount of methamphetamine. Deputy Garcia told Homicide Investigators that he honestly believed that the duct-taped package was a handgun and that Suspect Ruiz was going to shoot him with it.

WITNESS STATEMENTS

Deputy Perez said on the night this incident occurred, he was working uniformed patrol with his partner, Deputy Noe Garcia, in Unit 216F1 on the Early Morning Shift. He said Deputy Garcia was the driver and he was the bookman. He said he and Deputy Garcia were in the area of 58th Drive and Hooper Avenue handling an illegal shooting call, when they heard a call go out over the radio of an illegal shooting on 58th Drive between Compton Avenue and Hooper Avenue. He said the call was assigned to Unit 216E1, Deputies Travis Morrow and Benjamin Torres. He said due to fact that they were so close, they assigned themselves the assist on the call. He said he and Deputy Garcia then coordinated their response to the call with Deputies Morrow and Torres and other responding units over the L-TAC frequency of their car radio. He said he and Deputy Garcia then took up a position at the corner of Hooper Avenue just south of 58th Drive and awaited the responding units arrival. He said while they were waiting, they heard several gunshots go off just west of their location. He said the gunshots sounded like they were coming from a small caliber handgun.

Deputy Perez said he and Deputy Garcia drove westbound on 58th Drive and began checking the area for the origin of the gunshots. He said they saw a male Hispanic walking northbound across the south sidewalk toward the street, about mid way down the block. He said he could not see anyone else in the area or on the street. He said when the male Hispanic (later identified and hereafter referred to as Suspect Sergio Ruiz) saw them, he seemed startled or scared. He said when he first saw Suspect Ruiz, Ruiz made a quick motion toward his waistband as if he was going for a weapon or trying to hide one. He said

Suspect Ruiz then turned quickly to his right and tried to open the sliding chain link gate leading to a business (warehouse) located at [redacted] 58th Drive. Deputy Perez said he has been dispatched to that particular business numerous times in the past and has never seen Suspect Ruiz present on those occasions.

Deputy Perez said he and Deputy Garcia thought that Suspect Ruiz was probably the person responsible for firing the shots they just heard and was armed. He said he removed his Beretta pistol from his holster as Deputy Garcia drove up adjacent to Suspect Ruiz, who after fumbling with the chain link gate, was able to open it and run into the open fenced in lot in front of the warehouse. He said after Deputy Garcia stopped the radio car, he got out and ran around the front end as Deputy Garcia was exiting the driver's side door. He said as he did so, the radio car struck him because Deputy Garcia had failed to place it in park before he exited the vehicle. He said at that point his attention was focused on the radio car that kept creeping forward. He said he ran to the driver's door, got in, and tried to put the vehicle in park to stop its forward movement.

Deputy Perez said as he was doing that, he heard two separate rapid bursts of gunfire go off. He said he knew those rounds were fired from a 9mm pistol and thought that Deputy Garcia had fired them. He said at that point, he thought that Suspect Ruiz had pointed a handgun at Deputy Garcia, because he saw Ruiz reaching for his waistband as they drove up. He said he was 110% sure that Suspect Ruiz was armed at that point. He said he immediately looked behind him and saw Deputy Garcia pointing his Baretta at Suspect Ruiz from a position of cover behind a trash dumpster inside the warehouse yard on the other side of the chain link fence. He said he also saw Suspect Ruiz moving around on the ground inside the yard area of the warehouse. He said Ruiz was saying something to Deputy Garcia, but he could not make out what it was. He said he then put out a "998" via his hand held radio. He said as he did so, he heard Deputy Garcia shout at him, "Sir, he turned on me!" He said he then asked for a rescue unit to respond to their location.

Deputy Perez said he and Deputy Garcia both gave several loud commands to Suspect Ruiz to stop moving around and lie still. He said when Suspect Ruiz quit moving around, they approached him and noticed that he had several gun shot wounds to both arms and legs. He said Ruiz was treated by the paramedics at the scene and then transported to Martin Luther King Hospital by ambulance. He said they were unable to find a gun inside the area where Suspect Ruiz had been shot. He said Deputy Garcia recovered a oblong object wrapped in duct-tape, which was silver in color **(Exhibit B-8)**. He said the object was approximately 6 to 8 inches long and 3 to 4 inches wide. He said the object was lying on the ground just south of where Suspect Ruiz fell, near the locked door of the office area of the warehouse. Deputy Perez said he later learned the duct-taped object contained a large amount of methamphetamine.

Deputies Morrow and Torres said when they arrived at the scene, they saw Suspect Ruiz lying face up inside the fenced yard of the closed business, 'VH Polishing,' located at [redacted] 58th Drive. They said he was bleeding from numerous gunshot wounds to his body. They said fearing that Ruiz might die from his gunshot wounds, they asked one of their assisting units to bring them a tape recorder so they could interview him. They said Deputy Propster, brought them a tape recorder and advised Suspect Ruiz of his Miranda Rights. They said Suspect Ruiz agreed to talk to them and they began asking him a series of questions. They said Suspect Ruiz told them that he did not work at the location and that he had found the keys to the business earlier that evening. They said Suspect Ruiz told them he was in a taxi cab en route to a bar on 58th Drive when he saw a man (NFD) lock the front sliding gate to the business located at [redacted] 58th Drive and then walk away. They said Ruiz told them as the man walked away, he dropped the keys on the sidewalk in front of the gate. They said Ruiz told them that he told the taxi cab driver to stop, and when he did, he got out and walked over and picked up the keys. They said he told them that when he saw the radio car approach him, he opened the gate and walked inside the yard. They said Suspect Ruiz told them that the package wrapped in silver duct-tape contained "drugs," but did not know what kind. They said Ruiz told them he found the drugs next to the keys on the sidewalk. Deputy Morrow said he continued questioning Suspect Ruiz and asked him if he turned toward Deputy Garcia when Garcia first contacted him. He said Ruiz told him that he did. He said Ruiz went on the relate that he was holding the silver duct-tape package near his stomach and threw it away when Deputy Garcia chased him.

[redacted] said he, along with [redacted] and [redacted] drove to the 1200 block of 58th Drive to visit his cousin [redacted] He said it had been a long time since he had seen his cousin [redacted] and because of that fact, he had trouble locating her residence. He said he stopped the van he was driving across the street from a business, and parked it. He said as he did so, he noticed a police car behind him. He said the police car did not have its lights on and was stopped in the middle of the street. He said he was talking to his friends and was going to turn off the motor of the van when he heard four gunshots. He said prior to hearing the gunshots, he heard a male voice yelling something similar to "halt," or "stop." He said he was positive it was a police officer yelling the commands to halt. He said he looked behind him and saw a deputy sheriff getting out of the radio car that had stopped just behind them. He said he also saw someone trying to get into the business directly across the street from where they were parked. He said he saw a "shadow type male" going through the fenced area in front of the business and walk toward the front entrance. He said the deputy that had gotten out of the radio car was running after him.

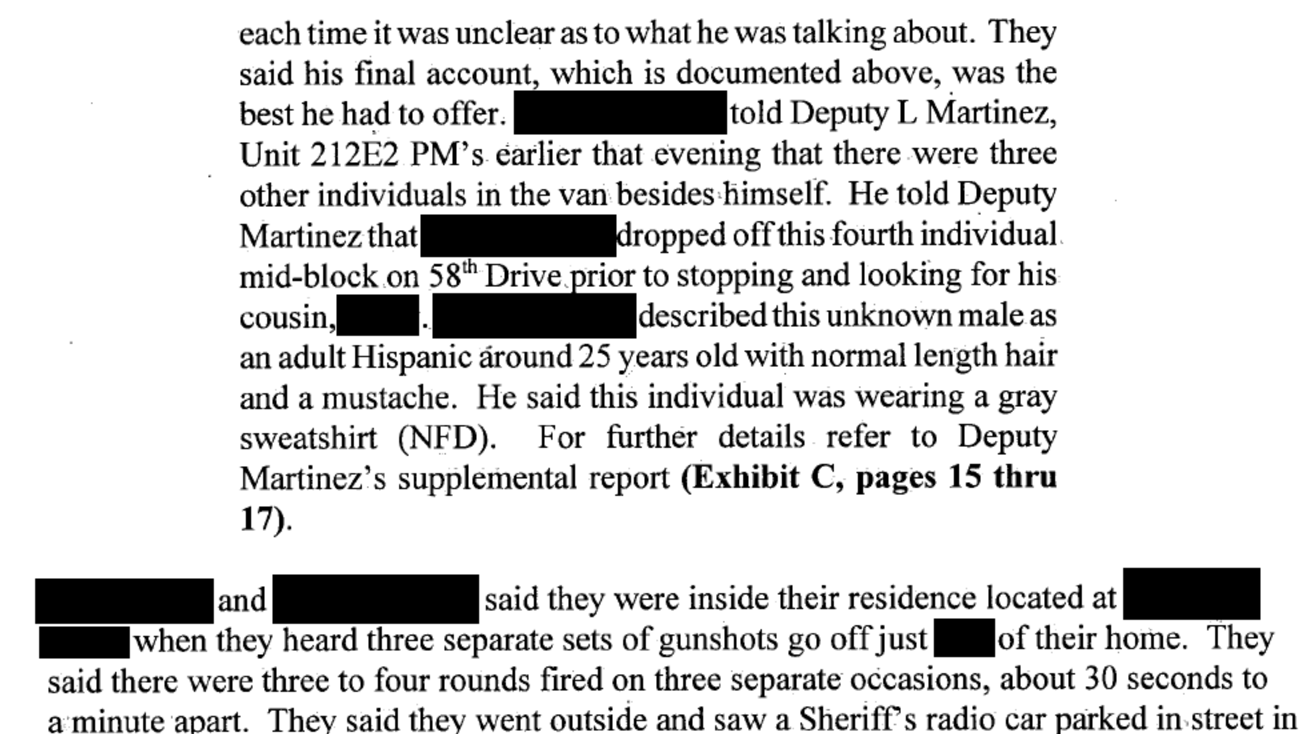
[redacted] said he believed the male who went through the fenced area was slender in build and of medium height. He said he could not identify the race or the clothing the man wore because it was too dark. He said he first saw the male when his attention was drawn to

the area where the deputy was yelling commands to stop or halt. He said he did not see anyone else on the street prior to the shooting. He said he also did not hear any gunshots being fired when he pulled up on 58th Drive and parked his van. He said he did not get out of his van when the shots were fired because he didn't want to get shot. He said a few seconds later, a lot of deputies arrived on the scene. He said he has no idea who fired the shots that he heard. He said he did not try to leave the area because he did not want the deputies to think he or his friends had anything to do with the shooting. He said the deputies contacted them a short time later and took them to Century Sheriff's Station. He said he told Homicide Investigators at Century Station that he did not know the suspect, Sergio Ruiz.

[redacted] said that he accompanied his [redacted], [redacted] and another man he did not know [redacted], to the 1200 block of 58th Drive to visit [redacted] cousin, [redacted] He said they parked [redacted] van across the street from a business and walked up and down the block looking for [redacted] house. He said when they were unable to find [redacted] house, he got back in [redacted] van and sat in the right front passenger's seat. He said as he was waiting for [redacted] to drive off, he heard two (2) gunshots. He said he looked around and saw one deputy sheriff run from a radio car toward another deputy sheriff. He said a few minutes later, a lot of deputies showed up and started questioning them about a shooting involving a deputy. He said he did not know Suspect Sergio Ruiz.

[redacted] said he was seated in the back seat of the van when the shooting occurred. He said he thought it was fireworks at the time. He said he had no idea gunshots were being fired that close to him. He said he had accompanied two other men to the location who were going to visit some relatives on 58th Drive. He said the man driving the van was known to him as [redacted] He said he did not know the name of the other man that accompanied them. He said he went with these two individuals because he wanted to go see a family member who was having a birthday and lived near 92nd Street and Zamora Street. He said [redacted] could not remember where his cousin lived and could not find her house. He said as they were preparing to leave the area, he heard three gunshots go off. He said a few seconds later, a lot of radio cars and deputies arrived in the area. He said prior to hearing the gunshots go off, he did not see any deputies in the area. He said it was dark and he could not see anything else except a police car moving slowly down the street that crashed into a parked car on the south side of the street. He said he did not hear anyone yelling prior to the gunshots going off.

> **IAB NOTE:** Homicide Investigators said the interview with [redacted] was very disjointed and hard to follow. They said he claimed to be nervous because he had never been interviewed by law enforcement personnel prior to this incident. He gave two or three versions of what happened and



each time it was unclear as to what he was talking about. They said his final account, which is documented above, was the best he had to offer. [redacted] told Deputy L Martinez, Unit 212E2 PM's earlier that evening that there were three other individuals in the van besides himself. He told Deputy Martinez that [redacted] dropped off this fourth individual mid-block on 58th Drive prior to stopping and looking for his cousin, [redacted]. [redacted] described this unknown male as an adult Hispanic around 25 years old with normal length hair and a mustache. He said this individual was wearing a gray sweatshirt (NFD). For further details refer to Deputy Martinez's supplemental report **(Exhibit C, pages 15 thru 17)**.

[redacted] and [redacted] said they were inside their residence located at [redacted] when they heard three separate sets of gunshots go off just [redacted] of their home. They said there were three to four rounds fired on three separate occasions, about 30 seconds to a minute apart. They said they went outside and saw a Sheriff's radio car parked in street in front of the business located at [redacted] 58th Drive. They said there was a lot of police activity, so they went back inside their home. They said they did not see or hear anything else.

[redacted] and [redacted] who live at [redacted] and [redacted] respectively, said they heard gunshots going off all evening (New Years Eve). They said that around midnight, they heard several gunshots just [redacted] of their homes. They said they walked outside to see what was going on and saw a Sheriff's radio car in the street. They said shortly after that numerous Sheriff's units showed up and they went back inside their homes. They said they did not see or hear anything else after that.

The immediate neighborhood near the shooting scene was canvassed for possible witnesses by IAB investigators and Century Station personnel. For further information, refer to Deputies Twedt and Hilgendorf's supplemental report **(Exhibit C, pages 21 thru 25)**.

SUSPECT STATEMENTS

Suspect Ruiz was first interviewed on 01-01-01at 0408 hours at Martin Luther King Hospital by Homicide Investigators Joe Purcell and William Howell. During that first interview, Suspect Ruiz told Homicide Investigators that he had been shopping earlier in the day and was at a hamburger stand at Florence Avenue and Pacific Avenue, where he waved down a taxi cab and had the driver take him to a seafood restaurant located at 58th Drive and Hooper Avenue. He said as he got out of the cab to go to the restaurant, he found some

keys on the sidewalk in front of the restaurant near the corner. He said the keys had a tag with the name and address of "VH Polishing" on them. He said he was aware of that business and knew that they manufacture custom rims. He said he decided to use the keys to enter the business during the evening hours when it is closed and take some rims. Suspect Ruiz told Homicide Investigators that after he opened the sliding gate and entered the yard to the VH Polishing Company, he found a package wrapped in silver duct-tape on the ground. He said he did not know what was inside the package, but thought it might be money. He said after he felt the package, he realized it did not contain money. He said he thought the package might contain some type of narcotics, but did not explain why he believed that to be the case.

When questioned about his contact with Deputies Garcia and Perez, Suspect Ruiz stated he did not stop running when ordered to do so by Deputy Garcia. He said he did remember Deputy Garcia yelling at him that he would shoot him if he didn't stop running away from him. He told Homicide Investigators that when he turned to face Deputy Garcia, he had the duct-taped package in his hands. He said he then threw it to the ground while still facing Deputy Garcia. He said he does not have any idea why Deputy Garcia shot him after he threw the duct-taped package on the ground. He told Homicide Investigators that he remembers rolling and moving around on the ground after being shot the first time. He also told Homicide Investigators that he did not know the three men being detained at the scene by the deputies, Witnesses [redacted] and [redacted]

Homicide Detecitive Joe Purcell interviewed Suspect Ruiz a second time on 01-31-01, at 1500 hours, at Martin Luther King Hospital. Suspect Ruiz was not in custody and was in the physical therapy wing of the hospital at the time. Suspect Ruiz told Detective Purcell that he remembered talking to him on the night that he was shot. He went on the relate that he was having 'flashbacks' about being shoot and couldn't put the incident out of his mind. Suspect Ruiz then gave a third account of the shooting to Detective Purcell. He said he found the keys to the VH Polishing Company at a seafood restaurant on the corner of 58th Drive and Hooper Avenue. He said the keys had a tag on them with the address attached to it. He said he took off the tag and put the keys on his personal key chain and then went to the location. He said he wanted to go to that location to check it out and see what was in it. He told Detective Purcell that 'curiosity' is what got him shot.

Suspect Ruiz went on to relate that he used the keys he found to open the sliding gate and enter the fenced in yard at the location. He said he found a package taped in silver duct-tape on the ground. He said he originally thought the package contained money, but when he felt it, it felt breakable. He said he was sure the package did not contain money. He said he thought it contained some type of narcotic, probably marijuana. He said at that point, the deputies drove up while he was still inside the yard. He said even though he wasn't sure what was inside the duct-taped package, he was afraid to be caught with it and tried to throw

it away. He said he had the duct-taped package hidden underneath his shirt near his stomach when Deputy Garcia approached him. He said he lifted up his shirt and dropped the package on the ground. He said as he did that, Deputy Garcia yelled, "Stop, drop the gun or I'll shoot!" He said he did stop after he discarded the package, put his hands in the air, and turned around as ordered, but Deputy Garcia shot him anyway. Suspect Ruiz said he fell to the ground and was shot two more times. He said Deputy Garcia walked up to him while he was lying on the ground and placed his foot on his back in order to control him. He said by that time he was spitting up blood and shaking very badly. He said he thought he was going to die. He said Deputy Garcia asked him where the gun was and he told him he didn't have one. He said he was then taken to the hospital and treated for his gunshot wounds. He said he stayed in the hospital until 01-22-01, when he was released. Suspect Ruiz went on to relate that he did not know the owner of the location or any of the people that worked there.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Homicide Investigators examined Deputy Garcia's department issued Beretta, Model 92F, Serial #[redacted]. They found one live round in the chamber and six live rounds in the magazine. An examination of those rounds showed that they were Winchester Ranger 9mm Luger, 147 grain SXT. Deputy Garcia told Homicide Investigators that he carries his duty weapon with one live round in the chamber and 15 rounds in the magazine. That being the case, Homicide Investigators believed Deputy Garcia fired a total of nine (9) rounds at Suspect Ruiz. Homicide Investigators also found 7 'Winchester SCT' expended 9mm cartridge casings at the shooting scene **(Items 1 thru 7 on Exhibit A)**. In addition they also found one key ring with a metal emblem of an 'A' on it containing approximately six miscellaneous keys **(Item 8 on Exhibit A)**, and one silver colored duct-taped package containing 380.6 grams of methamphetamine **(Item 10 on Exhibit A)**. Four of the rounds fired by Deputy Garcia at Suspect Ruiz hit the front of the office building at the location **(Exhibit B-10 and Items A, B, C, & D on Exhibit A)**. Three of those rounds were recovered. For further details regarding the evidence found at the crime scene, refer to Homicide Investigators Tapia and Graves supplemental report **(Exhibit C, pages 48 thru 52)**.

LIGHTING CONDITIONS

The lighting conditions at the shooting scene were almost non-existent. It was extremely dark with very little background light. There were no street lights near the location and none inside the fenced in yard in front of the business.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Four bullet strikes in the front wall of the office building at the location belonging to "VH Polishing."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Homicide Investigators found a sizable meth lab inside the VH Polishing Company. Due to that, narcotics detectives from Century Station were called to the scene to investigate. After investigating the location, the owner, [redacted] was later charged with manufacturing methamphetamine for sales, 11383(C) H&S. That case is still pending in court. Homicide and Narcotics investigators believe Suspect Ruiz and [redacted] know each other and were working together to sell and distribute methamphetamine. However, they were unable to file those charges on those two individuals due to lack of evidence, and Ruiz's and [redacted] denials that they know each other.